

Colossians 1:19-23 – What Christ Has Done.

I. Fullness...19

Fullness, *pleroma*... expresses the sum-total of divine powers and attributes. Paul wanted to emphasize the idea that Jesus was fully and permanently God.

The fullness has been put into Jesus Christ. Not into a church; not into a priesthood; not into a building; not into a sacrament; not into the saints; not into a method or a program, but *in Jesus Christ Himself*. It was put into Him as a “distribution point” – so that those who wanted more of God and all that He is could find it in Jesus Christ.

Colossians 2:9-10 - *For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.*

Hebrews 1:1-4 - *God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.*

II. Reconciled all things...20-23

In Edenic perfection Adam walked with God all day, after the fall he hid and was banished from enjoying fellowship with Him (**alienated/ownership changed - Self and Satan**). All of us in Adam thus waged war against God and each other; no-wonder we're yet to hear about and witness more wars until the very last one...

In Adam we were all given to sin; lost, blind, alienated/separated, hostile, offensive, guilty, naked, despicable, hateful, lustful, dead...

Galatians 5:19-21 - *Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.*

To reconcile is “**bring back a former state of harmony...**”

Christ, through His death on our behalf as a payment for our sins, has brought us back to our former owner, God. “The **blood of the cross** speaks to us of the real, physical and substitutionary death of Jesus Christ. *That literal death in our place, and the literal judgment He bore on our behalf, is what saves us.*”

John 14:6 - Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

In Christ Jesus we return to our original position...holy, blameless, above reproach...and all things (prey & predators, groaning earth...)

i. Righteous...made right.

2 Corinthians 5:21 - For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

ii. New...recreated.

Ephesians 2-14-16 - For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one **new man** from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity.

iii. Washed (clean), sanctified (set apart), Justified (made right)...

1 Corinthians 6:11 - And such were some of you. But you were **washed**, but you were **sanctified**, but you were **justified** in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

iv. Forgiven

1 John 2:12 - I write to you, little children, because your sins are **forgiven** you for His name's sake.

v. Redeemed...

Rev 5:9 - And they sang a new song, saying: You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,

vi. Alive...

Ephesians 2:1 - even when we were dead in trespasses, **made us alive** together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

Saved, free, rescued,